



Section Ten

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED & ASSAULTED SUMMARY

POLICE OFFICERS KILLED AND ASSAULTED

The killing or assault of a police officer has a harmful effect on society that reaches far beyond the overt act. Such occurrences constitute an immediate threat to the well-being of the community and serious breach of the internal security of the country. Today a young person who considers a career in law enforcement must also consider the very strong possibility of being killed or assaulted by a member of the very same society they are sworn to protect. This deplorable situation should be a subject of serious concern, for in truth, an attack on a police officer is an attack on society. The violence directed against law enforcement officers acting in the line of duty is clearly demonstrated by the following information.

POLICE FELONIOUSLY KILLED

VOLUME/TREND

- In 2004, no police officer was feloniously killed while in the performance of duty.

Year	Police Officers Killed	Year	Police Officers Killed
1995	4	2000	-
1996	-	2001	1
1997	3	2002	-
1998	-	2003	1
1999	2	2004	-

ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS

Police assault statistics are important to the police administrator who attempts to identify the causative factors of this type of criminal activity. Many factors contribute to police assaults, and circumstances vary from place to place. Identifying specific reasons for these assaults is therefore extremely difficult. The following information illustrates the frequency of these events, and any attempt at analysis of these assaults should include consideration of the unique variables present in each jurisdiction. Due to the broad field of services performed by many state and county police agencies, no assault rates are computed for total police officers.

VOLUME/TREND

- There were 3,383 police officers assaulted in 2004, an increase of 6 percent when compared to the 3,206 in 2003.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS

- Twenty-seven percent (901) of the officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Physical Force, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 85 percent (2,882) of all police assaults.
- Twenty-five percent of police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Fourteen percent of the assaults on police officers occurred during the 2-hour period of 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

CLEARANCES

- The police of New Jersey were successful in clearing 95 percent of the assaults directed at them.

ASSAULTS ON MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS

VOLUME/TREND

- A total of 2,914 municipal police officers were assaulted during 2004, a three percent increase compared to the 2,818 assaulted in 2003.
- The assault rate, for every 100 municipal officers, was 13.7, a 3 percent increase compared to 2003.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS

- Twenty-four percent of the municipal officers assaulted sustained injury.
- Physical Force, such as hands, fists and feet were used in 84 percent of all municipal police assaults.
- Twenty-nine percent of the municipal police assaults occurred when officers responded to disturbance calls.
- Attempting Other Arrests accounted for 18 percent of municipal police assaults.

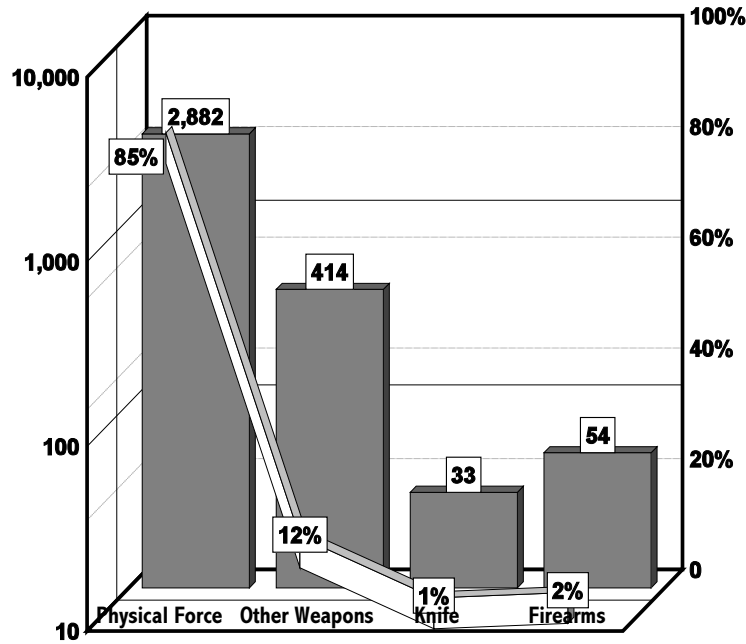
OTHER POLICE OFFICERS ASSAULTED

The following law enforcement agencies are dealt with separately and are not included when computing municipal assault rates; the services performed by these agencies vary greatly from the functions of municipal police agencies.

VOLUME/TREND

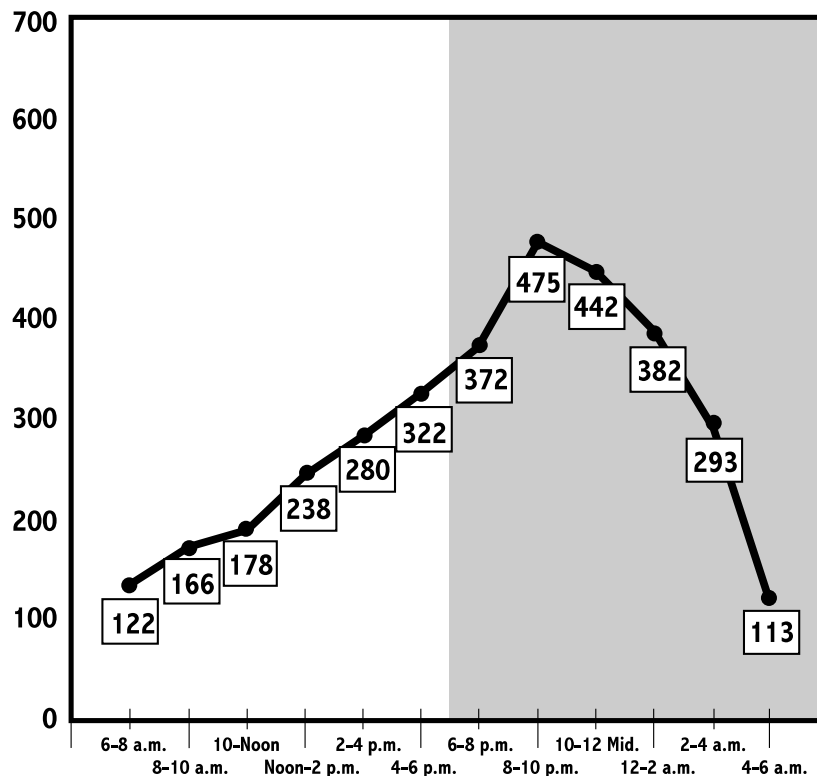
- County law enforcement agencies reported 127 officers assaulted with 66 sustaining injury.
- The New Jersey State Police reported 42 officers assaulted with 11 sustaining injury.
- Other state agencies with police powers reported 281 officers assaulted with 114 sustaining injury.
- University and college police agencies reported 19 officers assaulted with 9 sustaining injury.

WEAPONS USED IN ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS



Percent distribution may not total 100 due to rounding.

ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS BY HOUR OF DAY NUMBER – PERCENT DISTRIBUTION



ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS BY TYPE OF ACTIVITY

NUMBER – PERCENT DISTRIBUTION

	Municipal Police		County Agencies		State Police		Other State Agencies		Universities and Colleges		TOTAL	
TYPE OF ACTIVITY	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution	Number	Percent Distribution
Responding to “Disturbance” Calls	836	29	1	1	3	7	7	2	3	16	850	25
Burglaries in Progress	36	1	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	36	1
Robberies in Progress	53	2	-	0	3	7	-	0	-	0	56	2
Attempting Other Arrests	533	18	19	15	11	26	11	4	4	21	578	17
Civil Disorder	46	2	-	0	-	0	2	1	2	11	50	1
Handling or Transporting Prisoners	295	10	90	71	8	19	244	87	-	0	637	19
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	376	13	-	0	5	12	1	*	6	32	388	11
Ambush	5	*	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	5	*
Mentally Deranged Persons	73	3	-	0	-	0	1	*	-	0	74	2
Traffic Stops	302	10	2	2	9	21	6	2	-	0	319	9
All Other	359	12	15	12	3	7	9	3	4	21	390	12
TOTAL	2,914	100	127	100	42	100	281	100	19	100	3,383	100

* Percent is less than one-half of one percent.

Percent distribution may not total 100 due to rounding.

ASSAULTS ON MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS NUMBER – RATE PER 100 OFFICERS BY COUNTY 2004

COUNTY	NUMBER OF OFFICERS	NUMBER OF ASSAULTS	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	ASSAULT RATE PER 100 POLICE OFFICERS
ATLANTIC	961	143	4.9	14.9
BERGEN	2,177	213	7.3	9.8
BURLINGTON	786	109	3.7	13.9
CAMDEN	1,360	199	6.8	14.6
CAPE MAY	343	36	1.2	10.5
CUMBERLAND	291	52	1.8	17.9
ESSEX	2,833	429	14.7	15.1
GLOUCESTER	583	113	3.9	19.4
HUDSON	1,940	323	11.1	16.6
HUNTERDON	182	8	0.3	4.4
MERCER	929	155	5.3	16.7
MIDDLESEX	1,602	158	5.4	9.9
MONMOUTH	1,499	177	6.1	11.8
MORRIS	1,080	75	2.6	6.9
OCEAN	1,064	134	4.6	12.6
PASSAIC	1,126	202	6.9	17.9
SALEM	125	19	0.7	15.2
SOMERSET	603	51	1.8	8.5
SUSSEX	201	31	1.1	15.4
UNION	1,438	275	9.4	19.1
WARREN	153	12	0.4	7.8
TOTAL	21,276	2,914	100.0	13.7

Percent distribution may not total 100 due to rounding.